

What are ways teachers can use a learning portal site to help students?

<http://105.wikispaces.com/> (Wendy Wolfe, Totino Grace) has been a real tech leader in MN. Take a view of her classroom wiki if you have time. In addition, I would STRONGLY recommend her for presentation. She did a great job in our school at a Tech Summit two summers ago.

An overview of all of her thoughts and applications is in a blog No Time for Sleep <http://notimetosleep.wordpress.com/> (isn't that the truth?)

another question...how can teachers effectively use their school-designated web pages, blogs, wikis, and all other technology?? how to balance this?? what i mean is that teachers' schedules are so full, how much do you actually need to use?? maybe just a wiki, or a blog...i feel people might think they need to use all of these tools, when only one might fit their course/curriculum...

Any of them would be good, it just needs to be clear to the target audience that It is important that the goals and purpose of the web page and other media are established. Having a clear and simple process to put things on the web page etc. is going to control the amount of use.

How can the learning be different viewing a video like "The Dirty Thirties" instead of reading about the Dust Bowl in a textbook?

The voice along with the pictures really makes it come alive.

Seeing what it is like in video is much more powerful than reading about it. Hence, the reading becomes attached in a multi-sensory way that makes things doubly powerful. I'm a true believer in multi-sensory teaching. I think the reconnection with those ideas has a much greater chance of occurring.

You can hear the emotion expressed. It seemed to have more power when it is the voice of the actual person who lived through the experience.

The students are able to personalize the information more. Learning occurs more when it is personalized.

Students will find the visual and audio stimulation much more appealing. It would be a good tool for both teaching and learning.

to hear an actual voice talk about it is powerful.

Oral histories preserve primary source information and the tone of the participant.